

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 01079 201607 Z

43

ACTION LAB-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-09

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 RSR-01 /055 W

----- 101325

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6435

UNCLAS OSLO 1079

PASS LABOR

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB US NO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION INQUIRY ABOUT
US OFFSHORE OIL RIGS

1. THE NORWEGIAN EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION (NAF) HAS ASKED THE EMBASSY FOR INFO CONCERNING UNION ORGANIZATION-- IF ANY-- AND CONTRACT CONDITIONS FOR WORKERS ON OFFSHORE OIL RIGS OPERATING ON THE U. S. CONTINENTAL SHELF. NAF WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANSWERS TO ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS: A) ARE WORKERS ON OFFSHORE RIGS ORGANIZED? IF SO, IN WHICH UNION(S)? B) A DISTINCTION CAN BE DRAWN BETWEEN EXPLORATORY BORING RIGS AND PRODUCTION PLATFORMS, AND ALSO BETWEEN BARGE- TYPE RIGS OR PLATFORMS WHICH MUST BE TOWED AND SELF- PROPELLED RIGS. ANOTHER DISTINCTION CAN BE DRAWN BETWEEN EMPLOYEES ON OFFSHORE RIGS AND THOSE AT SHORE- BASED SUPPLY DEPOTS. ARE SUCH DISTINCTIONS REFLECTED IN DIFFERENCES IN UNION ORGANIZATION, WAGE LEVELS, OR OTHER ASPECTS OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS? C) ARE THERE ANY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN UNION ORGANIZATION, WAGE LEVELS, ETC., BETWEEN WORKERS IN OFFSHORE OIL OPERATIONS AND THOSE ENGAGED IN SIMILAR WORK ON LAND? D) ARE MOST OF THE EMPLOYEES ON OFFSHORE RIGS AMERICANS, OR ARE THEY RECRUITED FROM OTHER COUNTRIES? IF MUCH OF THE LABOR FORCE IS FOREIGN, IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE US TERRITORIAL WATERS?

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PAGE 02 OSLO 01079 201607 Z

2. ACTION REQUESTED: THE EMBASSY ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE NAF AND WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND TO ITS REQUEST FOR INFO. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFO IS READILY AVAILABLE; A BRIEF REPLY SOON WOULD BE MORE USEFUL THAN A DETAILED REPORT LATER ON. CROWE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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